

bad on account of their abundance. House crows frequently combine in their marauding.

This hot weather, when making notes on the habits of the Common River Tern, a very interesting bird to study during the nesting season, I noticed one of these marauding parties of crows harassing a small colony, which had selected an island on our lake for their nesting. Morning and evening troops of crows would fly around the island, they were attacked immediately and vigorously by the terns, which succeeded in driving them away from time to time. The terns had the advantage of speed, and did not permit the crows to settle on their islands, nevertheless the raiders did not abandon their purpose. Reinforcements arrived, more and more crows came, and by sheer numbers, the raiders were eventually successful in stealing two eggs from the twenty-seven that were on the island. The raids continued day by day, the eggs were reduced until there were none, and the terns were compelled to evacuate their breeding grounds.

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BHAVANAGAR,

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V.—NOTES ON THE NESTING OF LEGGE'S FLOWER-PECKER (*ACMONORHYNCHUS VINCENS* [SCLATER]).

(With a plate).

As there are no records of the nesting of this species, a description of the nest I found last February, may be of interest.

It was built about 75 feet from the ground in one of the lower branches of a *Dipterocarpus zeylanicus* which stands in a strip of jungle on this estate.

These trees are tall and straight, the trunk being bare of branches for 60 feet or more, and then breaking out into a fairly large head. The leaves are stiff, and from 5 to 8 inches long.

The nest was suspended from a leafy twig, being well protected from above by the foliage. It was larger than most Flower-peckers' nests, measuring about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, and as will be seen from the photograph, had a pronounced hood over the somewhat large entrance.

It was rather fragile, being made of reddish vegetable down and cobwebs. The small furry seed cases of some plant were also incorporated, and were of the same reddish brown colour. The outside of the nest was decorated with dried leaf bracts or stipules, of varying size, two or three long ones being attached to the bottom of the nest.

Unfortunately I waited too long, and missed getting the eggs. The hen incubated for such brief periods, that I was under the impression that she was still building. It was only when I saw both cock and hen going regularly to the nest, that I realised my mistake.

There were two young. Only the hen built the nest and brooded the eggs. All observations had to be done with field glasses, and



Nest of Legge's Flowerpecker (*Acmonorhynchus vittatus*).